

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

(From the Times, January 7.)

FRANCE.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Paris, Friday, January 4, 6 p.m.

A good deal has been said about the propositions presented by the Emperor Francis Joseph to Russia, and accepted by France and England. Until they are officially known, I may as well give you what is stated in the German Chancellery in Paris, already alluded to, and I have reason to suspect that it is perhaps nearer the truth than anything as yet published on the subject. With respect to the Danubian Principalities, I am assured that, as already stated, the complete abolition of the Russian protectorate is insisted upon. Russia is to have no exclusive right of protection, nor intervention in the domestic affairs of the Principalities. It is demanded that the Principalities shall retain their privileges and immunities under the suzerainty of the Sultan, and that the Ottoman Porte, in concert with the contracting Powers, shall grant to the Principalities an internal organization according to the necessities and freely expressed wishes of the population. In concert with the Sultan also, as their suzerain, the Principalities will adopt a permanent defensive system, such as is required by their geographical position, and no obstacle and no impediment shall be offered to them in their adoption of any extraordinary measures of defence they may require to enable them to resist aggression on the part of a foreign Power. In exchange for the fortified places and territory occupied by the allied armies, Russia will be required to assent to a modification of her own frontier with Turkey in Europe. The frontier thus modified, conformably to the general interest, will commence from the neighbourhood of Chotym, following the line of the mountains which extend in a south-easterly direction, and terminating in the Lake of St. Peter. The line will be definitively regulated by the treaty of peace, and the ceded territory will be restored to the Principalities, and consequently to the suzerainty of the Porte.

With respect to the Danube, the opening of that river and its mouths will be effectually secured by regulations in which Europe will have an interest, and in which the contracting Powers will be duly represented, excepting the portions belonging to the Powers who have territory on its banks, which will be regulated according to the principle established by the Congress of Vienna in matters relating to river navigation. Each of the contracting Powers will have the right to maintain one or two small vessels of war at the mouths of the river, with the object of insuring the execution of the regulations relative to the freedom of the Danube.

The Black Sea will be made completely neutral. Its waters will be open to the merchant shipping of all nations, but will be interdicted to war navies, and, in order to make that neutralization a *bona fide* neutralization, the present military armaments will be destroyed, and no new ones hereafter created. The complete protection of the commercial and maritime interests of all nations will be secured in the various ports of the Black Sea by regulations based on and in conformity with international right. The two Powers possessing territory on the Black Sea will accept the engagement reciprocally to maintain therein no more than the number of light vessels, the force of which shall be determined previously, necessary for the service of their coasts respectively. It is also provided that such stipulation or convention as shall have been agreed to for that object, shall be appended to the general treaty. It will be previously submitted to the approval of the Powers who sign that treaty, and will have the same force and be in every respect considered as forming an integral part of that instrument. Those stipulations or conventions forming part of the general treaty, and secured in the same manner, shall not be altered, modified, or cancelled, without the previous assent of all the Powers who sign the said general treaty. With respect to the closing of the Straits the execution will be admitted as applicable to the Powers that possess territory on the shores of the Black Sea, as alluded to in the preceding article.

The privileges, immunities, and rights of the non-Muslim subjects of the Porte will be confirmed, without affecting the dignity and the independence of His Majesty the Sultan, and, as I informed you yesterday, Russia will, after the peace, be invited to take part with France, England, and Austria, in all such deliberations as have for their object to secure to the non-Muslim subjects of the Sultan their religious and political rights.

In addition to the above, the belligerent Powers reserve to themselves the right to propose, in the general interest of Europe, special conditions besides the four guarantees.

The representatives in Paris of some of the States of Germany, and perhaps one or two Russian residents, are said to be cognizant of the above. The same may perhaps be affirmed of the Belgian Government. At all events, it is believed that the foregoing is a fair summary of the famous Austrian propositions.

I understand that the assurance was again given to-day in an official quarter of the resolution of this Government to carry on the war in the most vigorous manner in the event of Russia not according to the propositions adopted by the allies. It was repeated at the same time that the Emperor Napoleon had no insatiable desire for war; on the contrary, he would feel as much satisfaction as any one that the war should cease, but that he and the English Government were determined not to abate one iota of the terms on which peace would be accepted, and that if Russia still held out she would soon see how two such powers make war in the Baltic. It was not denied that there was still a glimmer of hope of peace, but it was admitted that the glimmer was very faint indeed. This does not differ in any respect from what I have more than once described as the disposition of the French Government, but it is no harm to repeat it each time that counter-statements appear in the Russian press of Belgium and Germany.

Of the result of Count Esterhazy's mission to St. Petersburg we know nothing positive as yet, nor do I believe we can know anything before the 10th or 12th instant. There are many rumours, but it is not worth while, indeed it would be waste of time, to occupy you with them, as they can only be founded on the merest conjectures. In some of the German Chancelleries in Paris it is said that the despatch sent by Count George Esterhazy of the disposition of the King of Prussia to support the Austrian proposition at St. Petersburg led to conclusions far too favourable and exaggerated; and that the Count disappeared soon after from Berlin, and it is supposed proceeded to Vienna to set his Government right on the matter, and it is feared to considerably reduce the importance which had unintentionally or otherwise been attached to the promise or engagement of the King.

I mentioned in a former letter that the intrigues of Russia had produced a certain effect on some of the German States not over pleasing to the allies. I am now informed that the King of Bavaria continues at present, anxious for peace, but with restrictions, and that he does not go beyond the acceptance by Russia of four guarantees. M. de Beust remains faithful, however, to the impressions with which he left Paris on his return to Germany, and to those who reproach him with his change of opinion he alleges the military advantages the belligerent Powers have already obtained, and the satisfactory explanations given to him by the Emperor and the French Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The resentment of Russia against Sweden is very great. She will never forget or forgive the alliance of that Government with France and England.

The *Courrier de Marseille* of the 3rd instant, publishes the following letter, dated Suez, 19th ultimo:

The International Commission sent to survey the line of the projected canal across the Isthmus of Suez arrived here on the 16th, after a journey in Upper Egypt, where the Viceroy had requested them to study the best mode of bringing the Red Sea and the Mediterranean into communication. Their report on this question is already in the Viceroy's hands. The day of their arrival, the Commissioners visited our consulate, and employed the whole of the 17th, 18th, and 19th, in making soundings in the gulf, where the mounds of the canal are to be constructed. They marked out several points, and particularly the sites of three locks, situated about two leagues from the mouth of the bay, and at equal distances from both banks. These locks are well known to seamen, and present no insuperable difficulties to navigation. According to the observations made and the facts ascertained on board the English corvette, the distance from the town of Suez to the distance of 16 kilometres from the town, the roadstead of Suez may be considered one of the safest in the world. The anchorage is excellent, and on no occasion did the corvette sustain the least damage in its waters. The north winds which prevail there nearly the whole year, and those from the south, which scarcely last two months, are not sufficiently violent to endanger navigation, and the current is very moderate, during the three years his vessel remained there, the communication as with the shore had not been once interrupted by bad weather. The Commissioners visited today the quays of Suez, three leagues to the south-west of the town, which are to supply the stone necessary for the construction of the canal. They are shortly to leave for Port Said, crossing the Isthmus from south to north, and there is every reason to believe that they will have completed their exploration in the first days of 1856, and lines are being projected in the mountains (on the Isthmus) along the line of the future canal, and hitherto the results described in the present despatch, which the Commissioners have begun to examine on the spot, continue to be most satisfactory.

The Emperor, accompanied by M. Leifau, the architect, yesterday afternoon visited the new works at the Louvre. His Majesty examined in succession the Pavillon de Rohan, the wing of the Ministries, the gardens, the return wing on the side of the Picture Gallery, and the Pavillon de L'Esplanade.

The Prefect of Police has issued a decree for the reorganization of the inspectors of the butchers' trade. Those inspectors were previously appointed by the Prefect, on the recommendation of the butchers themselves, but this practice is to be henceforth discontinued, and they are to be appointed directly by the Prefect. Their number is increased from eight to 15, and they are to receive a salary from the Prefecture, commencing from the 1st instant. They are placed under the immediate orders of the Inspector-General of the Markets. The duties of the inspectors are: 1. To see the execution of the regulations and decrees relating to the butchers' trade, particularly those relating to the tax on meat, and to report on any infractions of the same; 2. to examine the nature, quality and kind of meat exhibited in the slaughterhouses, markets, and butchers' shops; 3. to inspect, as and when directed by the Prefect, the cleanliness of the meat sent by contractors of the Hotel des Invalides, the Military School, and the barracks of Paris, inland and extra muros; and, 4. to superintend the driving of cattle on the roads and their distribution in the markets and slaughterhouses. The attributes which they formerly possessed relating to the private interests of the trade are maintained; but any observations which the syndics of the butchers may have to make on the subject are to be addressed to the Inspector-General of the Markets.

A letter from Rome, of the 22nd ult., says:—

Prince Alexander Bismarck is now engaged in carrying out the instructions of his deceased brother, Prince Otto von Bismarck, who before his death had given an order for a chapel altar for the Church of Notre Dame at Bologna. The altar will be of a simple but elegant design, and will be executed by the most celebrated artists of the present time. The altar will be of a simple but elegant design, and will be executed by the most celebrated artists of the present time. The altar will be of a simple but elegant design, and will be executed by the most celebrated artists of the present time.

A new exchange of prisoners between the French and Russians took place recently at Odessa. Among the French prisoners given up were three officers of the Vautour, who were captured in the Caucasus, some time ago by the Cossacks whilst out shooting in the neighbourhood of Krimburg.

The receipts of the Orleans Railway during the week ending on the 29th ultimo were 899,511fr., or 126,153fr. more than during the corresponding week of 1855. The gross receipts since the 1st of January amounted to 52,497,007fr., being a difference in favour of 1855 of 8,549,500fr.

Paris, Saturday, January 5, 6 p.m.

A letter from Frankfurt mentions that additional co-operation is given to Saxony, Bavaria, and Wurtemberg in the efforts made by the States in favour of peace. It is considered certain that the Grand Duke of Hesse gives his complete approval to the propositions transmitted by Austria to the Court of Russia. The representative of the Grand Duke at St. Petersburg has been instructed to support those propositions, or, at least, advise their acceptance by the Russian Cabinet. What the result may be no one can say; but the act of the Grand Duke is considered important, as the Emperor of Russia is his sister, and he is believed to possess much influence over her. "This step," adds the letter,

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is said, engaged to construct a railway from the frontier of Spain to Lisbon.

An Imperial decree opens to the Budget of the Legion of Honour a supplementary credit of 184,305fr., of which 171,109fr. are for the expense of decorations, medals, &c.; and 13,200fr. for the office charges of the commission of old soldiers.

The *Moniteur* publishes a decree of the Minister of War fixing the conditions of re-enlistment of such men as have been released from the service. Re-enlistment for seven years will be paid to the sum of 2300fr., 700fr., to be paid at the time of re-enlistment, 300fr. either at that time or during the period of service, and the remaining 1800fr. on his definitive liberation from the service. Re-enlistment for less than seven years will give a right to a sum of 230fr. for every year's service, 100fr. to be paid on the day of re-enlistment, 30fr. either at the same period or during the time of service, and 100fr. at the period of liberation. Voluntary engagements of those altogether liberated from the service within less than a year will be entitled to the same advantages as above specified. The Minister has addressed a circular to the military and civil authorities containing the above regulations, and ordering them to be posted up in the different barracks and in all the communes throughout the country.

The screw war transport *Meurthe* and the steam corvette *Solon* left Toulon on the 4th instant, the first for the Black Sea, and the second for the Piræus.

On the same day the sailing frigate *Vengeance* entered Toulon, coming from the Black Sea.

The steam corvette *Primauget* and the war transport *Caravane* arrived at Brest on the 4th from Toulon.

A detachment of 75 Paris firemen embarked at Marseilles for Constantinople on the 3rd instant.

AUSTRIA.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Vienna, January 1.

Prince Gortschakoff a few days since gave a dinner to Baron Hess and other Austrian officers of the highest rank. Towards the end of the repast Prince Gortschakoff proposed the health of Baron Hess, and at the same time expressed his heartfelt satisfaction that there was such an excellent understanding between the Russian and Austrian armies. In a word, the Russian Minister took an ungenerous advantage of his position as host, and insinuated that the political opinions of his Majesty's principal Generals did not coincide with those entertained by his Majesty's Ministers. Baron Hess, who is a good diplomatist as well as a skillful officer, replied that he was greatly flattered by the compliments paid him by the Prince, but took no notice whatever of the political part of his speech. A public correspondent cannot, of course, mention his sources of information, but you may be perfectly sure that the Emperor expressed extreme indignation when he learned that the minister of a foreign Power had dared to hint that his army disapproved of his policy on the Eastern question. The "demonstration" was intended to be against the Minister for Foreign Affairs; but Prince Gortschakoff overheard the remark, and forgot that the Emperor, as an absolute monarch, directs the foreign policy of Austria, and that Count Buol merely obeys the instructions which he receives. No one can be better aware of the perfect correctness of this remark than M. de Bourqueney and the Earl of Westmoreland, both of whom are more than acquainted with the lips of the Austrian statesman that he was only the interpreter of the will of his Imperial master. Colonel Manteuffel, who was expected by the morning train from Dresden, has not yet arrived.

At the sitting which was held yesterday by the Administrative Council of the Credit Bank, Prince Max von Furstenberg made the following speech, which is a kind of epitome of the history of the new institution:—

Gentlemen.—The Credit Bank for Commerce and Trade, the establishment of which was one time since suggested by the Imperial Royal Apostolic Majesty, has become a reality, and I take the liberty of saluting you as its representatives. We have received proofs of the confidence of the Government and the public in its promoters, and it is for the institution to show that it appreciates the merits that confidence. To his Excellency Baron Bruck our gratitude is due for the kindly feeling which he has so graciously manifested towards the institution. When, a year ago, the founders met in private the possibility of establishing a Credit Bank, impediments which seemed almost insuperable, presented themselves. The final realization of our project is mainly attributable to the energetic and judicious conduct of M. Louis von Haber, and in my own name I now acknowledge our obligation to him. His Highness then proposed Prince Schwarzenberg as president of the company, and that nobleman, who is the largest landed proprietor in Bohemia, was elected by acclamation. In addition to the Financial Committee, of which mention was made yesterday, a Committee of organization has been formed, whose duty it will be to propose the means of establishing the bureaux of the company. The Financial Committee will manage the funds of the Company, and for the moment invest its capital in such a way that it can be had at a very short notice. No one is inclined to doubt that the shares will bear a very high premium before a year has elapsed.

In consequence of the enormous rise in the price of all the necessities of life, the lower classes of Government clerks are in such extreme distress that his Majesty has directed that they shall either receive temporary assistance or have their salaries augmented.

The *Star of the North* was, if possible, more successful at the second than at the first representation. Their Majesties were present on both occasions. Meyerbeer, who appeared to be far from well, was obliged to appear some twenty times. May it be asked why his *Kreuzfahrer* (Crusaders) has entirely disappeared from the stage? A musical celebrity assures me that it is more melodious than any of his other operas.

Prince Gortschakoff and his suite declare that they fully expect to quit Vienna, but it will be seen that they will linger here as long as they can find an excuse for doing so. The Kaiser's correspondent on the *Oesterreichische Zeitung* who is no bad authority on such matters, is of opinion that Russia will never accept such conditions as those which have now been sent by this government to St. Petersburg.

THE STATE OF NAPLES.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Naples, December 29.

Every day his wonder, and that of to-day is that M. Brenier has wrought a miracle upon the Royal mind, and disposed it favourably to the allies. Such is the report which I have heard stated strongly in several directions, and by people who ought to be well informed. It is added that the King will send a contingent to the Crimea, and, I have authority for stating that his Majesty has never been asked to do so, and that he does so it will be by his own volition.

lastly, it is asserted that the Emperor of Austria is contemplating a visit to this Court, and that a long series of splendid fêtes is in prospect. I am very sceptical of what I cannot see with my eyes and touch with my hand, and am disposed to think that the above reports want confirmation. I therefore send them to you as I hear them. Expectation is so highly wrought on the subject of M. Brenier's mission, that I do not wonder at anything that is said of the results, and as to the contingent, the report of such a measure appears to me to flow very naturally from the large levy of troops. It is an evident effort to explain a difficulty. I believe, however, that my views of the reasons for the monster promotion, as also the levy, are correct. With respect to the visit of the Emperor of Austria I know nothing, except that orders have been given to high Court officers to make preparations for fêtes on a scale of great splendour. Of this there can be no doubt. The Court, too, are coming to Naples. After having given you reports, and attempts at explanation of the grounds of them, let me now tell you what I have received as certain,—that M. Brenier has expressed himself pleased with his reception by his Majesty, though baffled in his wishes to treat directly with the King. The royal manner was very gracious. It is stated that M. Brenier has every hope of accomplishing the object of his wishes, whatever they may be. The French Government steamer which brought him is still here, and waits his orders to carry off results, or to seek for further instructions. We are in expectation, therefore, of a brighter state of things than we have witnessed for some time, at all events on the surface.

ITALY.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Turin, January 2.

A letter received this morning from a good authority at Milan mentions the receipt of a despatch from Vienna by the local Government there, ordering the release from sequestration of the property of the Marquis Pallavicino Trivulzio, and says that the Imperial decree for that purpose has been granted because these estates had been sequestrated by mistake ("per errore"). The Marquis Pallavicino's property was sequestrated, with that of many other Lombard gentlemen, in the early part of 1853, ostensibly from a belief on the part of Government of his having been implicated in the *emule* of the 6th of February, at which conviction it was pretended it had arrived from secret sources of information, which, of course, were never published to the world, and therefore could not be contradicted, but the present act releasing that property unsequestrated by its owner, and without any declaration on his part of attachment to the Government is an open avowal of the injustice to which he has been subjected for nearly three years. M. Pallavicino has been one of the greatest sufferers in the cause of Italian independence. In 1821 he was arrested and confined at Milan for conspiring with Count Gualandieri, Silvio Pellico, &c., and after a trial which lasted two years, was sent to the prison of Spielberg, where he passed twelve years—from 1824 to 1836. By the amnesty of 1836 he was allowed to return to Milan, where he lived until 1848. On the breaking out of the Revolution he was opposed to a fusion of Lombardy with Piedmont; and although he subsequently became a naturalized Sardinian subject, and in 1853 a Deputy of Turin, he has always advocated Republican principles until quite lately, when he adopted the idea enunciated by M. Manin in his famous letter to the *Times*, offering to acknowledge Victor Emmanuel, if he came forward as King of Italy; but, "si no, no." To the present Government here, and to the treaty of alliance with the Western Powers, M. Pallavicino has always been a steady opponent, both in and out of Parliament, and when it was known at Milan that the sequestration was to be taken off his property, it naturally appeared to be dictated by anything rather than a friendly feeling for the Court of Turin. From another source, however, I learn that the release is likely to be general, or that, at all events, the properties of the Counts Arce and Borromeo will be set free. Both these noblemen are naturalized Sardinian subjects and senators, and the former, who was an intimate friend of Prince Louis Napoleon, has lately been a guest at the Tuilleries, where the Emperor took especial pains to show that their friendship had not diminished on his part; so that, if this latter information be correct of other Sardinian subjects, then M. Pallavicino being relieved from this unjust oppression at the present moment, we shall not be far wrong, most likely, in attributing the tardy repentance of the Austrian Government to a desire to conciliate the good will of her powerful ally previous to the convocation of any congress that might be charged with reconsidering the dispositions of that of 1815.

The effects of the concordat are beginning to manifest themselves in Lombardy. The Archbishop of Milan is said to have agreed with his bishops to undertake a crusade against the press. The Archbishop demanded the assistance of the Government to repress the impertinence of the editors, and the Government made no reply. Then the writers were summoned and threatened. At Bergamo the *Crepuscolo*, a paper published at Milan, as well as the works of Schiller were prohibited by ecclesiastical authority, but no attention was paid to such prohibitions elsewhere, and the bishops reproach the Government with not maintaining the concordat. It is, indeed, a strange sight to see the Austrian Government protecting the press against the attacks of the Italian Bishops; but the difference is that the Government allows publicity so long as politics are not touched upon, while the Church would suppress everything.

General della Marmora arrived in Turin yesterday evening about 4 p.m., having landed at Genoa in the morning from Marseilles. He was met at the station here by all the Ministers of the Crown and the English Minister, Sir James Hudson. Soon after his arrival he had an audience with his Majesty, but in consequence of a fall on board the steamer between Marseilles and Genoa, whereby he severely hurt his leg, he has been confined to his bed almost ever since, and it is doubtful if he will be able to proceed to Paris for the council of war. To-day the Council of Ministers assembled at his house previous to meeting the King in Council at a later hour. This is the time of year when the Turin press usually undergoes some change. There has been little mortality and few births, however, on the present occasion, but several papers have increased their size without augmenting their price without diminishing the size. The most conspicuous of the latter is the *Opinione*, which gives the same amount of matter this year for one sou that formerly sold for four, that amount being equal to rather less than two pence of the *Times*, so that it could secure a large circulation there would be nothing very hazardous in the speculation; but as it is

prohibited in all parts of Italy except Piedmont, that is impossible, and the higher priced journals predict its failure. The directors say they are enabled to make this reduction by the support obtained from members of the majority in the Chamber, and their enemies say they are assisted by the Ministry for the purpose of propagating their doctrines, for which they foretell the same fate as M. Guizot's system of influencing public opinion through journalism, in all but a revolution.

SPAIN.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Madrid, December 31.

A meeting of some importance has again taken place between the Catalan deputation on the tariff question and the deputies for Catalonia. It was held at the residence of General Concha, Marquis del Duero. The members of the deputation from Barcelona stated that, as they had hitherto been unable to effect anything with the Government in favour of the interests which they represented, it was their intention to return to Barcelona, which step would be also in unison with the instructions which they had received from their constituents. The deputies present remonstrated with them, stating that some conciliatory measure might yet be adopted, and that it would be inopportune for them to leave at the present moment. The members of the deputation finally agreed to defer their departure till it could be seen what effect the further efforts of General Concha and Senor Madoz might produce with the Government. It is stated that the committee of the Cortes will hold daily meetings, and hear the statements of the different parties concerned in the matter. The committee named by the Cortes to report on the proposal of the Credit Mobilier Company of Paris, through their representatives here, is unanimously in favour of the scheme. Various other similar schemes have also started up. A meeting of capitalists, who are desirous of forming another association of the same kind, took place at Senor Moreno's yesterday, but did not come to any conclusion on that occasion; but they are to meet again. There is also a project of another similar association, in which various French firms and some Barcelona ones appear desirous to enter.

It will be recollected that when the question of the unrecognised coupons, representing one-half of the overdue interest on the Spanish Four and Five per Cent. Stock was brought before the Cortes that body refused even to enter into any enquiry into the subject, and left the few deputies, who proposed to do so in a miserable minority of five. Supposing the rule to have been inexorably laid down that the question of the settlement of the debt is a closed one, and cannot be opened again on any side, this conduct is at least intelligible; but another class of holders of Spanish State paper, which rejoices in the name of "Deuda negociable de 5 por 100 en papel" (the term being rather a misnomer, as I believe it is not very negotiable and never quoted), have applied to have the paper given up as an acknowledgment of the interest, but not as an acknowledgment of the principal, and the debt of the second class, and this petition has been referred to a committee of the Cortes, which has elected Senor Madoz as its president, and is expected shortly to report upon it. It will be curious to see how this question will be dealt with, after the manner in which the holders of coupon certificates have been.

The Duchess of Roca, mother-in-law of the late Duke of Sotomayor, died the day after him. The funeral of the Duke was suitable to his rank and station; his corpse had been previously embalmed. Captain-General Capas, of the navy, has just died. D. Francisco Armero y Penedero will succeed him in that dignity.

The Cortes are occupied with matters of general interest. The naval estimates, as proposed by the Ministry, have been adopted, and the budget has been nearly got through. Senor Olazaga has left for Vico (Lagrona), and having spent a little time there, will go on to Paris.

The Three per Cents. were done to-day at 36, and the deferred at 21.85 and 95.

THE NEW JUDGE.

(From the Times, 7th January.)

THE elevation of Mr. Bramwell to the Bench will be received with general satisfaction by the Bar. As a sound lawyer, and an acute pleader, he has long been known to the profession. His reputation, indeed, in Westminster Hall is far beyond that which he has ever achieved out of doors. The public look rather to the more brilliant characteristics of the advocate to the power of appealing to passion and sentiment, than to those more solid qualities of mind, which are necessary for the due discharge of the judicial office. This, however, is a great error, and long experience has shown that the most brilliant orator may be a mere encumbrance on the Bench. In point of fact, it is scarcely a paradox to say, that in so far as a man is the more eloquent and fervent advocate he is the less likely to prove himself the consummate judge. It is one thing to be able, at a moment's warning, to take a decided view of a series of facts, to be endowed with the perceptive faculty of colouring up half-truths to the perilous faculty of truth itself, and quite another to possess the power of weighing probabilities with accuracy, of disentangling truth from error, of appreciating the value of conflicting statements. Some of our very best judges have been taken from among men who never attained to anything approaching to eminence as advocates. The high qualities of their minds are known to the discerning few, not to the vulgar. Their opinion is sought in chambers; their aid is invaluable in settling the course which should be pursued on particular occasions; but they would probably be found unequal to the recognized forensic gladiators in a mere affray. Mr. Bramwell has long been known as a man of this order, so that there would seem to be a peculiar propriety in selecting him as the successor of Baron Parker—a judge who was distinguished for precisely similar qualities of mind. In losing the public will have to regret the loss of a most summate lawyer and pleader. The Court of Exchequer has lost its eye-tooth in losing him, but it would be difficult to select any one from among the actual practitioners in the Courts at Westminster upon whom his mantle could with more propriety have descended than the gentleman who has actually been chosen as his successor.

Mr. Baron Bramwell will, we trust, in his method of dealing with the Crown cases, give as much satisfaction to the public as he certainly will do in all civil proceedings. The calendar at the various assize towns evince such a firm and clear-headed man, resolved at all costs to do his duty as a criminal judge, would, at the present moment, be an invaluable public servant. Murder is life in the land in its most violent and its most insidious forms, and the attending disclosures of fraudulent dealings among our mercantile classes—the

thousand, ingenious shapes which crime has assumed in the hands of the regular criminal practitioners—are all tokens which point to the necessity of stern repression. Abrogate your laws, if you will, but while they exist, let them be firmly administered as a terror to all evil-doers. Let no maudlin sentimentality or pseudo-philanthropy interpose between the criminal and that punishment which the law has assigned to his offence. "Judea damnatur cum nocens absoluitur" is a motto which must be tolerably familiar to English readers. It is their own fault if it has not been forced upon their notice at least four times a-year since the beginning of the century. We recommend it earnestly to the attention of the new-made judge, doubting not that, while he tempers justice with mercy, he will temper mercy with discretion. In this respect only, Mr. Baron Bramwell has his reputation to make—in all others his claims to public respect will be universally admitted, and the more so by those who are most in a position to appreciate the real value of the man. We have great pleasure in notifying his elevation to the high post which he has fairly won by his perseverance, ability, and integrity, and trust that he may emulate his predecessor in the length of his tenure of office as in all other respects.

COLONIAL REPRESENTATION IN THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

(From the European Times, 8th January.)

Lord Elgin, the late Governor-General of Canada, made a speech the other day at Glasgow which is exciting some interest, because of the importance of the subjects which he touched, and more especially with reference to one topic which in by-gone times excited considerable discussion—the representation of the colonies in the British Parliament. Nothing can show more strongly the complete change which has come over the spirit of the British Colonies in various parts of the world, as well as of the people of the mother country than the fact that this last moot-point which Lord Elgin has raised has all but lost its significance. Time was when the subject was popular with those who desired to see our colonies contented and progressive, and who regarded such a panacea as the one which has now been revived as the only safe connecting link between those various dependencies and the parent state. But the policy of which the late Sir William Molesworth may be said to be the founder, and which he lived long enough to see carried out, has all but rendered superfluous the check on Imperial legislation which colonial representation in the British Parliament was intended to afford at one time.

The principle of self-government by the colonists themselves is every way superior to this circuitous mode of operation, and as this principle is now the adopted policy of England—as it has received the sanction and support of the ablest men of all political parties in the state, there is no more fear of its reversion or abrogation than there is of the breaking down of the solar system. The leading journal of yesterday, in some comments on Lord Elgin's speech, says:—

"We admit the equality of our colonists, but we can admit no more. Let them by all means, enter our Parliament, and let it be on terms of perfect equality. They claim the right to legislate for us, and if so, we must also have the right to legislate for them. They claim a voice in taxing us, in contracting loans which we are to pay, and in adding us with obligations which we are to discharge. All this must, of course, be mutual. If they tax us, we must tax them. If they borrow money on the security of our Ways and Means, we must also have a right to pledge them. If they are to participate in Imperial powers they must also participate in Imperial burdens. The English empire may be looked on in two points of view—either as a Sovereign State surrounded by a number of dependencies, or as a vast confederacy of equal States, each having a voice according to its population, its wealth, or its territory. In the first case the dependencies may reasonably expect the Sovereign State to protect them, but to the latter the burdens of the Government which she retains in her own hands. In the second case it seems just that each confederate should contribute according to its ability, not only to the expenses of the Imperial Government, but to the interest of the debt incurred for its defence and consolidation. If the colonies are willing to be represented in the Imperial Parliament on these terms, we, on our part, must be willing to accept the question fairly in the face, and make up their minds whether the hour they seek to be worth the price they will assuredly have to pay for it. We invite the attention of Mr. Gladstone, or any other member of Parliament who may be minded to discuss this question to this question, at least as well worth discussing as any of those which which he has dealt.

We quote this passage for the purpose of illustrating the *reductio ad absurdum*. If Canada, Australia, and other British colonies in different parts of the world, had presented to them the offer of ruling themselves, or of being ruled by their own representatives in the palace at Westminster, would they hesitate for an instant which they would accept, and which they would reject? Would they abandon self-government, and become as it were, an *undivided portion* of the British empire, subject to very heavy taxation, to the payment of the national debt, and to the other liabilities arising from war, and the incidents which constantly beset the parent State? We need hardly answer for them in the negative. The cord which at present binds the Colonies to England is a silken one, and so expansive that it may be stretched considerably without injury to either. Substitute for it the millstone round the necks of our far-away dependencies (in the paragraph we have quoted) and the connection would become too intolerable to be endured. It would be speedily thrown off as an incubus which could not be endured, and the game which the American Colonies played in the latter part of the last century would be enacted over again.

But there is a middle course which might be carried out, without annoyance to any one, if any good were likely to come from it. We allude to the principle of *delegation*. In other words, for the colonies to send their representatives to the British Parliament, to speak and to vote on all questions affecting the colonies. To this we are not aware that any reasonable objection could be urged, and it might save to some extent that circuitous process of corresponding with the Colonial Office in Downing-street, which the existing system necessarily entails. This principle of delegation, too, would probably act as a check on the vagaries of certain Colonial Governors, whose acts, when brought by the delegates under the notice of Parliament. But whether these trivial advantages would counterbalance the expense which they would entail is a question for the exclusive consideration of the colonists themselves. The compromise to which we refer would have one inevitable tendency—it would surely lessen the importance of that grand official personage, the Secretary of State for the Colonies. At the same time, when we bear in mind that the free-trade system of the mother country gives to the colonists perfect freedom of action with regard to their own several products—when we remember that the colonies of England have scarcely a grievance which they have not the power in their own hands to remedy, it may be questionable whether the concession of the small boon to which we have alluded would be worth their acceptance.

DIARY.

P.M.—I am not clear in regard of the togeth, but it is near the mark.—*Mailand Mercury.*

his colleagues when the cause of civil religious freedom was to be promoted? It comes it to pass that he was resisted b

him with abstracting £40 in cash from the person
a Mrs. Bloombe, was brought up to receive sentence.
The sentence was, that he be imprisoned and kept
hard labour in Darlinghurst gaol for two years.

the rising of the Court the further hearing was postponed until Saturday.

to the execution of the work shall be approved of by the City Surveyor, and the whole work shall be executed to his satisfaction and in accordance with this

ill enough to attend to his duties yesterday as a member of the District Council.—Yesterday's Mail and Review.

au/nla.news-page14996

30 head of horses, consisting of mares, colts, and fillies, some of which are broken to saddle and harness—they are in first-rate condition—they must be sold. Purchasers would do well to attend this sale. Observe, **THURSDAY**, 10th instant, noon.
Terms at sale.

W. F. WESTALL, corn factor at a agricultural and
M. Postre, 25, Collins-street Wed. March 31, 1856.

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for this week.

1250 ditto fine dress, at 1s. 10d., worth 5s. 6d.
1262 new fancy dresses, at 6s. 6d., worth 21s.
1073 ditto ditto ditto, 8s. 6d., ditto 30s.
834 ditto very rich, at 10s. 6d., ditto 45s.
1280 ditto fine dresses, at 11 10s. 6d., worth 43s.
A large lot of real waxy blankets, very good and
cheap.

Also, an immense stock of Welsh flannels much under
value.

White counterpanes, extremely low in price
5 cases of mantles, direct from Paris, quite new in style

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dress: the very best qualities—at La Ville de Paris.
FRENCH Moire Antiques, white and coloured; broad
silks, decided bargains! at La Ville de Paris.
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full dress! at La Ville de Paris, 195, George-street.

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Carving knives, of the very best steel, warranted good
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Fine polished scissors, suitable for ladies and gentlemen.
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Cutlery ground and repaired daily.
J. GILLAM, Cutler, Park-street, Sydney

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